



— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

# Prize Competitions

Jennifer Beardsley

Prize Competitions Program Administrator

# Research and Development Office

- **Programs**

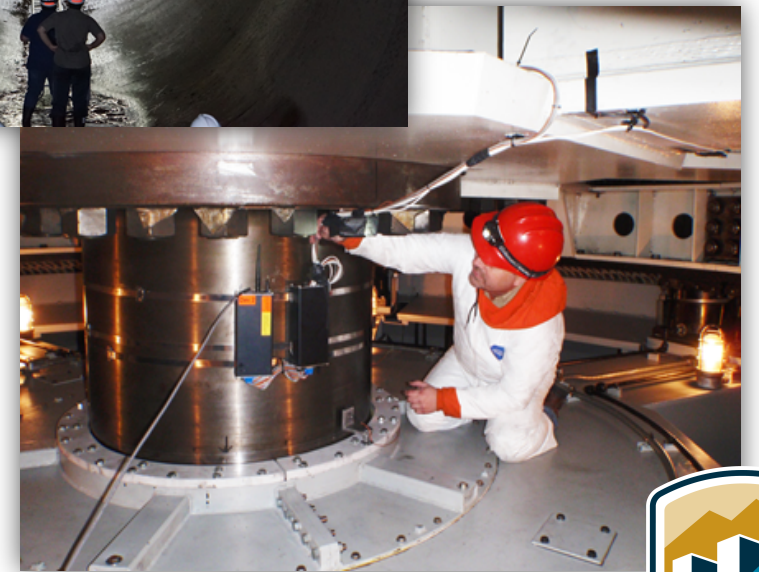
- Desalination & Water Purification Research
- Science & Technology – Research & Prizes

- **Address Technical Challenges in:**

- Developing water supplies (both programs)
- Water infrastructure
- Power and energy
- Environmental issues in water management
- Water operations and planning

- **Customers**

- Reclamation facility and resource managers, customers, stakeholders, private sector, public



<https://www.usbr.gov/research/>



# Pathways for Advancing R&D

- S&T Research
- Technology Transfer
- Prize Competitions
  - New tool
  - First competition launched in 2015
  - 24 competitions launched
  - Over 100 solutions awarded

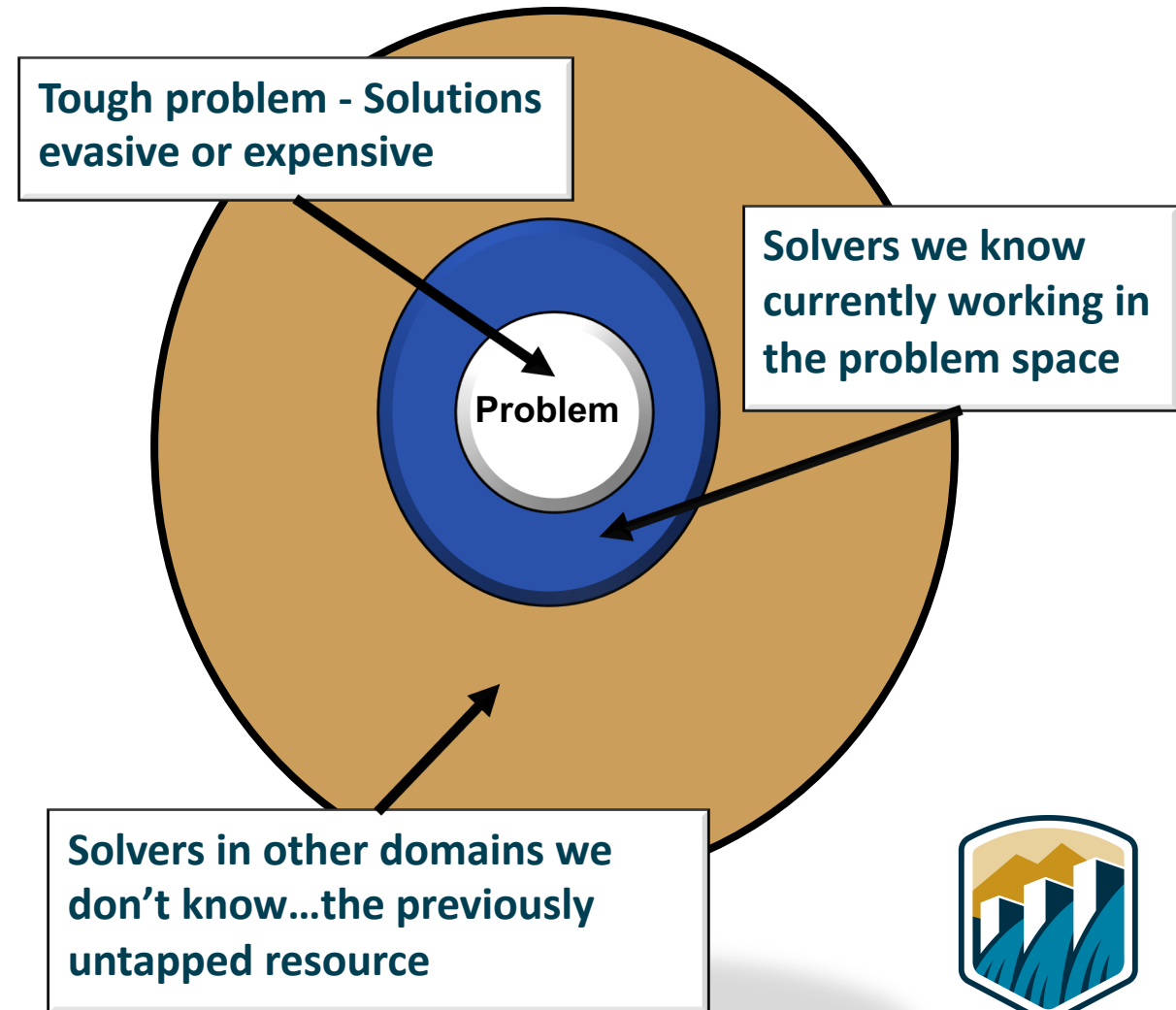


# Prize Competitions

A tool for solving tough issues and advancing research through using the crowd - Crowdsourcing

## Why Prize Competitions

- Solve long-standing issues
- Pay for results
- Improve cost effectiveness
- Accelerate
  - Research, development, commercialization
- New Partnerships





# Prize Competitions



## Water

Help water managers facing current and future water demands from agriculture, municipal, industrial, Native American, rural, recreation, power generation, and ecosystem needs



## Infrastructure

Support safe, well-maintained, and reliable inventory of dams, pipelines, hydropower generation facilities, canals, and levees



## Environment

Aids operations to ensure watersheds are healthy, continue producing water, and supports State and Federal law compliance



# Water

## Current

- More Water Less Concentrate – LAUNCHING TODAY
- Streamflow Forecast Rodeo

## Scoping

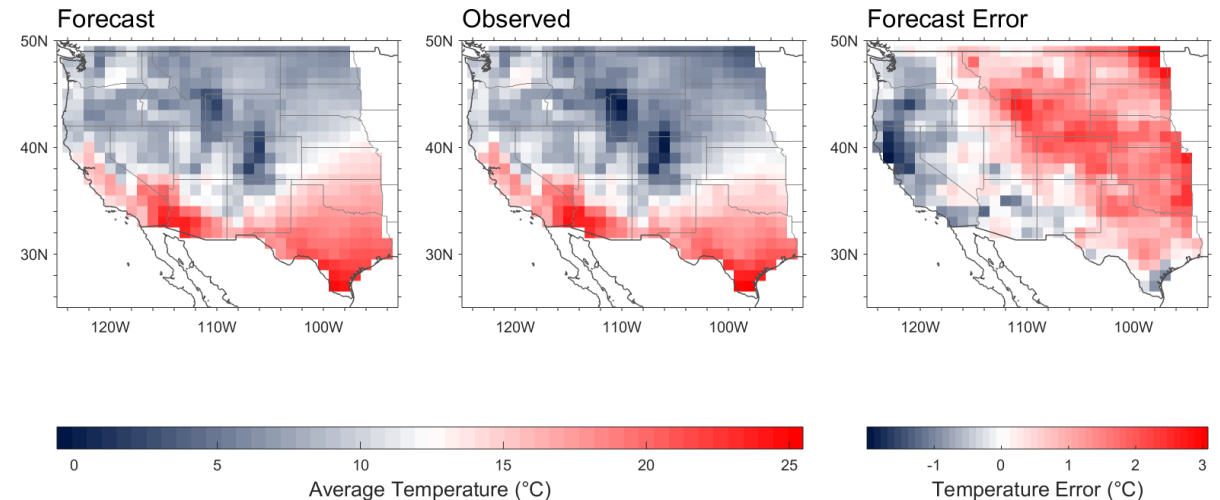
- Improving Snow-Water Equivalents Estimates
- Arsenic Sensor - Technology Search

## Success

- Sub-Seasonal Climate Forecast Rodeo II  
[www.drought.gov/drought/forecast-rodeo-ii-leaderboard](http://www.drought.gov/drought/forecast-rodeo-ii-leaderboard)



[www.MoreWaterLessConcentrate.org](http://www.MoreWaterLessConcentrate.org)



# Infrastructure

## Current

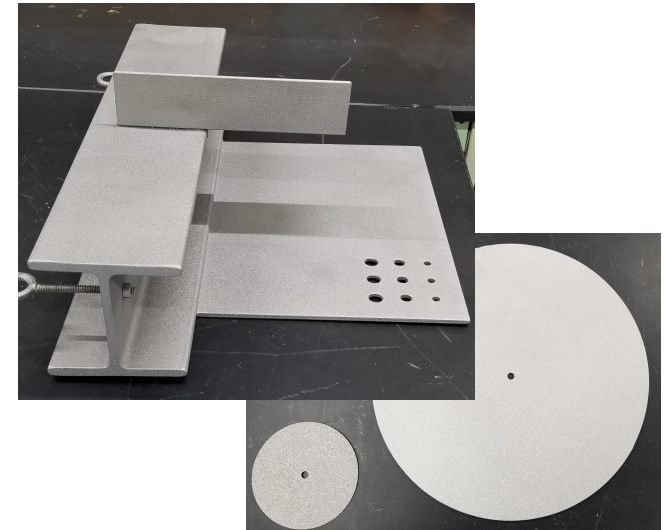
- Improving Canal Safety
- Rust Busters



[www.canalsafetychallenge.org](http://www.canalsafetychallenge.org)

## Scoping

- Reducing Canal Seepage
- Non-Destructive Composites Condition Assessment
- No Outage Testing of Hydropower Protection Systems



# Environment

## Current

- Guardians of the Reservoir



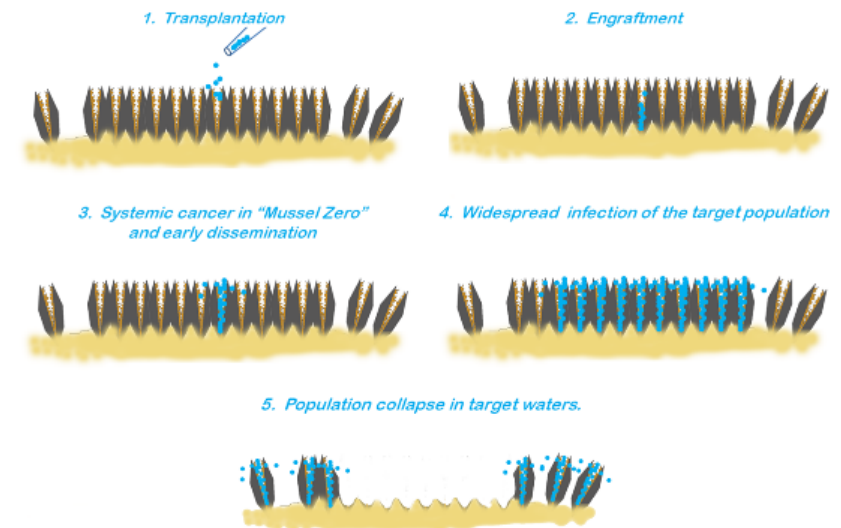
## Scoping

- Management of Aquatic Vegetation in Canals



## Success

- Fish Protection Prize
- Eradication of Invasive Mussels in Open Water

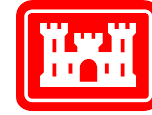




# Collaboration is Vital

## Partnership Opportunities

- Topic/Issue Identification
- Subject Matter Experts for Design/Judging
- Technical Support to Solvers
- Solution Testing and Evaluation
- Amplification of Competition
- Monetary or Non-Monetary Recognitions/Contributions
- Maturing Solutions



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<https://www.usbr.gov/research/challenges>

<https://www.usbr.gov/research/docs/ks/ks-2019-04.pdf>